Are We Experiencing Truth Decay?

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"Truth Decay" was the title of a recent article on a conservative Christian website. I believe such a title could be applied to many of the issues we face in our nation and the world today. But unfortunately, I do not have the space here to make an adequate list of some of the absurd ways various groups, the media, and politicians have contributed to the decay of what we know to be true.

Front and center in the news are the thousands of Americans in critical jobs who are about to be fired or dismissed for not taking one of the three messenger RNA shots (referred to as vaccines). For example, one of my sons, who works from home for a healthcare provider (for about seven years), was just told that he will be fired if he does not get the "vaccine" by the end of the year.

I may be missing something, but someone who works from home and who does not come into physical contact with his fellow workers or clients is, in Truth, not a threat to anyone, nor are they to him. Many others have worked safely during this time without getting these shots, yet they are being fired for refusing them – thousands are healthcare workers who see things the public does not. Additionally, many have achieved natural immunity that continues to show the most potent and longest-lasting form of immunity.

This scenario is being repeated across this nation, and the likely harm this will bring to our healthcare, law enforcement, first responders, and our supply chain (I could go on) will be consequential, for sure. Yet, unfortunately, many in elected offices disregard the obvious Truth of how their unconditional mandates will hurt all of us. Regardless of the certain trouble ahead, these "public servants" say that does not matter – everyone must get vaccinated (even our children in elementary school soon).

Please hear me out; this is not an anti-vax article. I have people in my congregation who decided to get the shots and those who chose not to. In my role as a pastor, I refuse to make such decisions a mark of one's spirituality or to label people as good or bad based on their "vax status." We have enough that is dividing us today. Be informed and make your decision based on real science and your individual health, and let others do the same. There are good reasons for both decisions.

My point is, I am attempting to express the sentiments of an overwhelming number of people who are simply stunned by the "totalitarian-style" mandates that are crushing their lives, placing their families in severe financial straits, and putting our communities at risk. People are asking: What happened to the "science" (Truth)? What happened to being "pro-choice"? What happened to the Constitution where there are three branches of government, not one? Hasn't it

already been decided that a pandemic cannot cancel our God-given rights of religion, speech, and assembly – because we can exercise these responsibly if given a chance. But unfortunately, these truths have suffered serious decay.

And then, recently, parents are being labeled as "domestic terrorists" for opposing school boards supporting curriculum containing sexually explicit material taught to their pre-teen children. And of course, there are the issues of gender, restrooms, biologic boys in girls' sports, and so on. An author I mentioned in my August article stated it this way: "the heresies of heresies today is common sense." More and more parents today know that Truth decay is real.

A good friend of mine, a ministry leader and former pastor, said this recently: "The increase of darkness is due to the absence of light." The Truth is that darkness does not exist, but rather it is the void left when light is absent. Conversely, darkness is always subject to the light and must bow to the light when it is "present." Light is used frequently to illustrate Truth, and when Truth is laid aside, the lies (darkness) are simply the void that results.

As a follower of Jesus, I believe that the source of all Truth is God and His Word (the Bible). I have been reading the Bible and following Jesus for almost 50 years, and I know that the Bible speaks to the moral issues over which we are dividing ourselves. If you are not a follower of Jesus, it would not be surprising if you disagreed with me on these types of issues. Unfortunately, the sad reality is that many American Churches and even entire denominations are split down the middle regarding these issues of morality. Could it be that the societal Truth decay we are witnessing began in our places of worship?

What is the remedy? A national "root canal"? Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31-32). Likewise, the Apostle Paul wrote, "It is for freedom that Christ has set you free.... you were called to be free..." (Gal. 5:1, 13). Jesus and Paul lived in a time when paganism and Emperor worship were the norm and freedom was not. Therefore, it must be concluded that there is a deeper freedom (from things like anxiety and fear) that can only be found in knowing, trusting, and following Jesus Christ.

Faith is a choice that produces a peace in the midst of turmoil as you grow in your confidence that He is with you, that He will provide for your needs, and guide you along the way (Col. 3:15). In these troubling times, I want to encourage you to put your faith in Christ and let His Truth (Bible) light your way – and help eradicate Truth decay.